display for displacement of a cursor represented on the display. The system also has user-interface means, having a manually operable data input device coupled to the cursor control means for user manipulation of the cursor via the cursor control means. The manually operable data input device controls the cursor control means by transmitting low speed data, effecting a relatively low cursor speed, to the cursor control means during a predetermined time interval, and by transmitting high speed data, effecting a relatively high cursor speed, to the cursor control means after the predetermined time interval has elapsed. The cursor control means displaces the cursor at the relatively low speed relative to the display during the predetermined time interval upon activation of the manually operable data input device. The cursor control means displaces the cursor at the relatively high speed after the predetermined time interval has elapsed.

KATO (JP-Abstract 1-200285)

Kato teaches a cursor movement controller in application software. The controller increases the moving speed of a cursor when the software detects that a specific key of a keyboard is depressed continuously for a prescribed time or longer.

TAKAHASHI (U.S. patent 5,153,571)

Takahashi teaches a computer mouse for connection to a computer and for generating a predetermined pulse signal (col.1, lines 7-10). A computer mouse transmits a count number

of pulse signals in accordance with the amount of movement of the mouse (col.1, lines 17-20). Takahashi addresses the problem that controlling the movement of the mouse gets more difficult due to a higher sensitivity if the number of pulses is increased that is transmitted by the mouse per amount of movement of the mouse body (col.1, lines 49-62).

Takahashi provides a unit between pulse signal generator of the mouse and the computer for varying the count number of pulse signals transmitted by the mouse (col.2, lines 3-11). The mouse is provided with an additional push button switch for the user to manually select the count number (col.6, lines 7-13). In more detail, the signal generator in Takahashi generates a pulse signal according to the amount of movement of the mouse body (col.2, lines 47-53). The pulse signal gets converted to a count number based on a control signal from a counter circuit (col.2, line 66 - col.3, line 5). The counter circuit is selectively made to work as a full counter that allows all pules from the generator to pass (col.3, line 65 - col.4, line 3), a ternary counter (col.4, lines 10-14) that passes on 1/3 of the pulses generated, as a quintenary counter (col.4, lines 23-29) that passes on 1/5 of the number of pulses generated, and a septenary counter (col.4, lines 36-41) that lets through 1/7 of the pulses generated.

ARGUMENTS

As mentioned in the correspondence of the parent case, Kato neither teaches nor suggests the user-interface transmitting different types of data to the cursor control means to effect low or high cursor speeds. Kato does not

disclose the keyboard transmitting different types of data that discriminate between high and low speeds. Arguably, the cursor control keys in the Kato system are the same passive elements as in any conventional keyboard. The system software detects whether such a key is depressed, depressed for a prescribed time or longer, or non-depressed, and controls cursor speed in response to such detection. The software is not located in the user-interface, i.e., not in the keyboard.

Takahashi teaches varying the amount of movement of the moveable mouse body required to move the cursor over a unit distance on the screen. The amount of body movement is selected through a push-button switch on the mouse. Through the push-button switch the user controls the operation of a counter circuit to supply an output signal depending on whether it is made to operate as a full, ternary, quintenary or septenary counter.

Takahashi does not teach a mouse sending high-speed data or high-speed data. Instead, Takahashi teaches push-button selection of the transfer function in order to determine the amount of mouse movement corresponding to a unit distance traveled by the cursor on the screen. This feature relates to spatial resolution of the cursor motion, and not to the temporal feature involved in cursor speed. To clarify this point: the user could, for example, move the cursor at the same average speed by properly moving the mouse body in each of the selectable modes of the Takahashi device. In other words, Takahashi's mouse does not transmit low-speed data and high-speed data.

Therefore, Kato and Takahashi address different technical

features: variation of cursor speed on the one hand and variation of the position transfer function on the other hand. A person skilled in the art confronted with the Kato reference would not find any teaching, suggestion or incentive in either Kato or Takahashi to support the combination (E.g., in re Bond, 910 F.2d 831, 15 USPQ2d 1566 (Fed. Cir. 1990)). Accordingly, the claims on file are patentable over the combination of Kato and Takahashi.

Applicants respectfully submit that they have answered all issues raised by the Examiner and that the application is accordingly in condition for allowance. Such allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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Date: 6/26/97
By: G. Lamprecht

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